

DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

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Country*

August 19, 1963

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. McGEORGE BUNDY
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Questions on Cuba for the President's
August 20 Press Conference

In accordance with the request from your office, there are enclosed briefing papers on Cuban subjects that could possibly be raised at the President's press conference tomorrow. With respect to the presence of Soviet troops in Cuba, the USIB is meeting again later this afternoon to arrive at an agreed paper, and I understand that Mr. McCone will orally brief the President on this. However, there is attached a reply to be made by the President on this subject which is believed will be consistent with the USIB document. Although the suggested reply is for the most part consistent with the statement that Gromyko made to Secretary Rusk at Moscow, it does not specifically mention Gromyko's statement. We think it preferable not to mention Gromyko's statement in order not to raise possible further questions on our "trusting the Soviets" with respect to Cuba.

These papers have not been seen or approved by the Acting Secretary, who may have additional suggestions that will be incorporated in the papers for his briefing session with the President tomorrow morning.

U. Alexis Johnson
U. Alexis Johnson

Attachments:

Please see attached list.

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